

BEFORE  
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
DOCKET NO. 97-239-C - ORDER NO. 2002-300

APRIL 18, 2002

IN RE: Proceeding to Establish Guidelines for an  
Intrastate Universal Service Fund.

) ORDER GRANTING  
) REQUEST TO EXTEND  
) DEADLINE FOR FILING  
) TARIFFS ASSOCIATED  
) WITH THE STATE  
) UNIVERSAL SERVICE  
) FUND

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This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (“Commission”) on the request of United Telephone Company of the Carolinas (“UTCC” or the “Company”) for an extension of time in which to file tariffs associated with the State Universal Service Fund as set out in Commission Order No. 2001-996, dated October 10, 2001, requiring UTTC to file its first tariffs associated with the South Carolina Universal Service Fund (USF) no later than April 1, 2002.

Commission Order No. 2001-996 sets out the guidelines and administrative procedures for the USF, and provides that after implementation of the first step of the Initial Phase of implementation of the USF, but no later than April 1, 2002, the ILECs may file tariffs to reduce other rates providing implicit support. Such filings will be considered by the Commission and a decision rendered by September 1, 2002, for inclusion in the state USF effective October 1, 2002.

By letter filed with the Commission April 10, 2002, UTCC requests the Commission to extend the April 1, 2002 deadline as set forth in Order No. 2001-996 to file its tariffs associated with the USF. UTCC respectfully requests that an extension be granted until June 1, 2002, to file the Company's related tariffs. Additionally, UTCC states that the Company concurs with the South Carolina Telephone Coalition's (SCTC) filing dated March 22, 2002, wherein SCTC believes that such an extension would not significantly impact the Commission's ability to implement additional USF funding that may be requested by October 1, 2002.

The Commission finds and concludes that UTCC's request for an extension of time to file its tariffs associated with the USF should be granted.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

1. The initial deadline of April 1, 2002, as set forth in Commission Order No. 2001-996, shall be extended to June 1, 2002, for United Telephone Company of the Carolinas to file its tariffs associated with the South Carolina Universal Service Fund.
2. This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

  
Chairman

ATTEST:

  
Executive Director  
(SEAL)